

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing Of Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of providing a customized web part, the method comprising ~~the steps of~~:

accessing a web part assembly which is capable of providing a presentation of a web part;

accessing a specification file associated with the web part, wherein the specification file comprises data indicating whether the web part should be modified and a pointer to an extensible markup language (XML) map, wherein the XML map is utilized, by the web part, to locate, retrieve, format, and display source data, the source data being stored at any location on a distributed computing network; and

modifying the presentation of the web part in accordance with the specification file and the data indicating whether the web part should be modified to provide a modified presentation as at least ~~[[part]]~~ a portion of the customized web part.

2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein ~~the step of~~ modifying the presentation of the web part in accordance with the specification file is performed by executing code embedded in the specification file.

3. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the code embedded in the specification file is HTML code.

4. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the code embedded in the specification file is JAVA script.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 2, wherein the web part consists essentially of compiled code and ~~where~~ wherein the code embedded in the specification file has not been compiled.

6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein ~~the step of~~ modifying the presentation of the web part in accordance with the specification file comprises ~~the step of~~ adding an element to the web part.

7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein ~~the step of~~ modifying the presentation of the web part in accordance with the specification file comprises ~~the step of~~ changing a characteristic of an existing element of the web part.

8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein ~~the step of~~ modifying the presentation of the web part in accordance with the specification file comprises ~~the step of~~ deleting an element of the web part.

9. (Previously Presented) A computer-readable storage medium which stores a set of instructions which, when executed by a computer, cause the computer to perform the method of claim 1.

10. (Original) A computer-controlled apparatus capable of performing the method of claim 1.

11. (Currently Amended) A system for providing a customized presentation of a web part, the system comprising:

a storage device adapted to store a web part assembly and a specification file, the web part assembly containing code for a web part presentation ~~and the specification file relating to the presentation~~, the specification file ~~comprises~~ comprising data indicating whether the web part should be modified and a pointer to an XML map, wherein the XML map is configured to be utilized, by the web part, to locate, retrieve, format, and display source data, the source data being stored at any location on a distributed computing network; and

a processing device responsive to the code in the web part assembly for providing the web part presentation, and responsive to the code and the data indicating whether the web part should be modified in the specification file for modifying the web part presentation.

12. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 11, wherein the code imbedded in the specification file is HTML code.

13. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 11, wherein the code imbedded in the specification file is JAVA script.

14. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 11, wherein the code imbedded in the specification file is not compiled code.

15. (Original) The system of claim 11, wherein the storage device comprises a first storage device for storing the web part assembly and a second storage device for storing the specification file.

16. (Currently Amended) A server operative to:
receive a request_i from a requesting device_i for a web page;
access a web part assembly which is capable of providing a presentation of a web part;

access a specification file associated with the web part, wherein the specification file comprises data indicating whether the web part should be modified and a pointer to an XML map, wherein the XML map is configured to be utilized, by the web part, to locate, retrieve, format, and display source data, the source data being stored at any location on a distributed computing network;

modify the presentation of the web part in accordance with the specification file and the data indicating whether the web part should be modified to provide a modified presentation as at least a portion of a customized web part;

render a web page representative of the modified presentation; and
send the rendered web page to the requesting device.

17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the specification file further comprises additional data indicating whether ~~one or more~~ at least one object ~~interfaces~~ interface should be implemented for the web part.

18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the specification file defines an object interface implementation.

19. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the specification file further comprises code for customizing the web part.

20. (Currently Amended) The ~~method~~ system of claim 16, wherein the specification file further comprises additional data indicating whether ~~one or more~~ at least one object ~~interfaces~~ interface should be implemented for the web part and code for customizing the web part, wherein the specification file defines implementation of an object interface.